

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 22294 231054Z

20/60

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2512

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y LAST TWO LINES OF PARA 3

NESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, IN, UN, FAO, UNESCO

SUBJECT: INDIAN ITEM ON 18TH GEN CONF OF UNESCO:

PROBLEM OF NEWSPRINT SUPPLY

1. AT INDIA'S INITIATIVE, UNESCO 18TH GENCONF (OCT 17 - NOV 22, 1974) WILL BE CONSIDERING AGENDA ITEM ENTITLED "PROBLEMS FACED BY MEMBER STATES, ESPECIALLY IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WITH REGARD TO THE AVAILABILITY OF NEWSPRINT AND PAPER." IN SUPPORT OF ITS INITIATIVE, GOI HAS SUBMITTED DRAFT RESOLUTION UNDER WHICH

"(I) MEMBER STATES ARE INVITED TO PROMOTE A MORE RATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPRINT SUPPLIES AND TO THIS END THE NEWSPRINT NEEDS OF MEMBER

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PAGE 02 PARIS 22294 231054Z

STATES IN ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA COULD BE

MET BY A SMALL (5 PER CENT) REDUCTION IN NEWS-
PRINT CONSUMPTION OF THE DEVELOPED MEMBER STATES.

"(II) THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL IS INVITED, IN CO-
OPERATION WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS, TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS WILL PRO-
MOTE INCREASE OF THE WORLD SUPPLY OF NEWSPRINT
AND A MORE RATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPRINT."

2. DURING RECENT LUNCHEON OF DEPUTY US PERM
REP WITH HIS INDIAN COUNTERPART, MINISTER DAYAL, LATTER
QAVE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND REGARDING SUBJECT MATTER.
LAST JUNE MEETING HELD IN TOKYO ON DEVELOPMENT OF
PERIODICAL PRESS IN ASIA TOOK UP PROBLEM OF PAPER SUPPLY
FOR THE DAILY AND PERIODICAL PRESS. THE MEETING REC-
OMMENDED THAT UNESCO SHOULD APPEAL (I) TO ADVANCED
MEMBER STATES TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION OF PAPER AND MAKE
AVAILABLE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THE SURPLUS THUS
CREATED AND (II) TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO USE
PAPER ONLY FOR NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS ESSENTIAL TO
DEVELOPMENT AND TO MAKE RATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEWS-
PRINT ON NATIONAL PRIORITY BASIS.

3. DAYAL SAID THAT TOKYO MEETING WAS THE FORERUNNER OF
MEETINGS FORESEEN FOR OTHER DEVELOPING REGIONS. HE
ADDED THAT IMBALANCES IN THE CONSUMPTION OF NEWSPRINT BE-
TWEEN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
HAS BEEN FURTHER ACCENTUATED BY RECENT HIGH PRICES.
THUS UNESCO IS CALLED UPON TO INITIATE IMMEDIATE WORLD-
WIDE PROGRAM TO MEET THE SITUATION, WHICH IN INDIA
AND SOME OTHER LDC'S IS SHORTENING THE VERY EXIS-
TENCE OF THE PRESS.

4. DAYAL CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY QUERY TO DEPUTY
PERMREP WHETHER US MIGHT CONSIDER PROVIDING SMALL FUND-
IN-TRUST TO UNESCO UNDER WHICH X AMOUNT OF PAPER WOULD
BE PROVIDED FOR INDIA TO MEET ITS NEEDS, WHICH WOULD BE
PARTICULARLY CRITICAL DURING NEXT 2 - 3 YEARS. DAYAL
STRESSED PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF SUCH US GESTURE ES-
PECIALLY IF IT COULD BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE FORTH-
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PAGE 03 PARIS 22294 231054Z

COMING UNESCO GENCONF.

5. COMMENT: SPEAKING OF PAPER SHORTAGE IN CONNECTION
WITH THIS REPORT ON UNESCO REGIONAL BOOK DEVELOP-
MENT CENTER IN ASIA (KARACHI) TO RECENT MEETING OF
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF UNESCO EXBD, UN INSPECTOR E. FERRER
VIEYRA REMARKED THAT "SUNDAY EDITION OF THE NYTIMES A-
LONE CONSUMES ABOUT 16 HECTARES OF CANADIAN

FOREST." FROM THE TENOR OF SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF
VIEYRA'S REBORT WE CONCLUDE THAT SUBJECT MATTER WILL
LEAD TO HEATED DEBATE AT 18 GENCONF.

6. DEPTS AND INFO ADDRESSEE'S COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
IRWIN

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